

In the Claims:

- 1.(currently amended) An automatic washing machine detergent dispensing device comprising a detergent bar comprising a detergent composition, a detergent additive, or a detergent composition which includes a detergent additive, said detergent bar ~~bar of detergent or detergent additive~~ disposed within a channel, wherein the detergent bar completely fills at least a portion of the channel across the entire bore of the channel, the channel having an inlet aperture which is in communication therewith.
- 2.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 1, wherein the channel has a uniform bore, along its length or ~~at least along the portion~~ filled by the detergent bar.
- 3.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the channel is a tube.
- 4.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 4, wherein the tube is cylindrical.
- 5.(currently amended) A device according to ~~claim 1 in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the channel has one open end which communicates with the inlet aperture.
- 6.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 5, wherein the channel comprises a form similar to a drinking glass.
- 7.(currently amended) A device according to ~~claim 1 in accordance with claim 1,2,3 or 4~~, wherein the channel has a plurality of (such as two) open ends each of which being in communication with an inlet aperture.

8.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 5, wherein the channel comprises a tube both ends of which are open.

9.(currently amended) A device according to ~~claim 5 in accordance with claim 5,6,7 or 8,~~ wherein the open end of the channel comprises the inlet aperture.

10.(currently amended) A device according to ~~claim 1 in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 9,~~ wherein the channel has a secondary aperture.

11.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 10, wherein the secondary aperture comprises a slit in the side of the channel.

12.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 10, wherein the secondary aperture may comprise a plurality of separate apertures.

13.(currently amended) A device according to ~~claim 1 in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 12,~~ wherein a barrier is arranged around the periphery of the channel.

14.(currently amended) A device according to ~~claim 13 in accordance with claims 43,~~ wherein the barrier comprises a sleeve arranged around the exterior of the channel.

15.(currently amended) A device according to ~~claim 10 in accordance with any one of claims 10 to 14,~~ wherein the diameter of the secondary aperture is larger than the holes of the dishwasher sieve.

16.(currently amended) A device according to claim 10 in accordance with any one of claims 10 to 14, wherein the diameter of the secondary aperture is less than 5mm.

17.(currently amended) A device according to claim 1 in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 16, wherein the device comprises a means to control the amount of wash liquor which contacts the detergent bar.

18.(currently amended) A device according to claim 17 in accordance with claim 17, wherein the means comprises a collecting funnel.

19.(currently amended) A device according to in accordance with claim 18, wherein the collecting funnel has a drainage opening in its collecting portion.

20.(currently amended) A device according to claim 1 in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 19, wherein the channel comprises a water-resistant or /water insoluble material.

21.(currently amended) The use of an automatic washing machine detergent dispensing device in an automatic washing machine in an automatic washing machine process, wherein the device comprises a bar of detergent disposed within a channel, the detergent bar completely filling at least a portion of the channel across the entire bore of the channel, the channel having an aperture which is in communication therewith.

22.(currently amended) An automatic washing machine process, comprising the step of providing to an automatic washing machine a detergent dispensing device, wherein the device comprises a bar of detergent disposed within a channel, the detergent bar completely filling at least a portion of the channel across the entire

bore of the channel, the channel having an aperture which is in communication therewith.